

Rio Grande National Forest Fishing Report

Week of June 28

<http://wildlife.state.co.us/dowfish>

Beaver Creek Reservoir - Lake is full and trout fishermen are doing well on rainbows and browns, mostly with bait but some on lures. Kokanee are also active, hitting spinners cast from shore or trolled near the dam. Best fishing is early morning and early evening.

Big Meadows Reservoir - Trout fishing has been fair to good with bait or spinners.

Conejos County (high country lakes) - No reports.

Conejos County (small streams) - Creeks are open but flows are high and discolored when it rains.

Conejos River The river is clear and flows have dropped to 387 cfs at Mogote and 119 cfs at Conejos. Two sections have special regulations: from the lower bridge at Platoro to the confluence of the South Fork, artificial flies and lures only with a bag and possession limit of two trout 16 inches or longer; from Mekhaven Resort downstream to the upper boundary of Aspen Glade Campground, artificial flies only with a bag and possession limit of two trout 16 inches or longer.

La Jara Creek - Flows are good and clear. Fishing is fair for brown trout.

La Jara Reservoir - The water level was lowered by drought over the last few years and most fish were lost. Trout have been stocked but the fish will need some time to grow before fishing gets better. Water conditions have improved and will continue to be evaluated throughout the summer.

Platoro Reservoir - Fishing is good for trout and kokanee salmon. For stocker rainbows use worms, Power Bait, salmon eggs or spinners. For kokanee troll cowbells, Dick Nites or Kokanee Kings. The reservoir also contains splake and brown trout. Access is through Alamosa Canyon or Conejos Canyon. The road through Conejos Canyon is graded. The lake level is low and vehicles have to traverse rough and rocky terrain to launch boats; four-wheel drive is recommended.

Rio Grande High Country Streams - Flows are coming down and streams are clearing. Fishing is good to excellent using attractor dry flies such as Royal Wulff and Coachman Trude.

Rio Grande River - Water is clear and flowing at 292 cfs near Creede, 767 cfs at Wagon Wheel Gap and 1,090 cfs at Del Norte. Yellow Stonefly and Caddis hatches are in full swing with a few Green Drakes spotted over the weekend. Fishing is good to excellent for browns and rainbows with Stimulators, Designated Hitters, #10-14 Caddis and #12 Green Drakes during the mid-morning hatch.

Road Canyon Reservoir - Fishing is fair to good for rainbows and brookies. Boaters are doing better than shorecasters due to mats of aquatic vegetation growing along the shoreline. Wet flies and spinners are most effective.

Spectacle Lake - Anglers should skip this lake for now. A dam failure lowered water levels and quality last year, killing many fish. There will be no restocking until the dam is repaired and water conditions improve. Repairs are scheduled by the U.S. Forest Service this summer.

Trujillo Meadows Reservoir - Fishing has been good for rainbow and brown trout on flies, lures or bait. Rainbows average 12 inches with a few larger browns. The water level is good and boat ramp usable.

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